THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) "A letter from Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh addressed to the Hon'ble Minister of Communication has been received on 20.03.01 suggesting setting up of a National Telecom University at Hyderabad with added faculties of economics, business administration, sociology, finance and banking related to Telecom and computer courses including research on advance themes. The suggestion is preliminary in nature and no decision has been taken on the subject."

Operation of INSAT-3C Satellite

2652. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether INSAT-3C Satellite is fully operational for satellite phone scheme;

(b) if so, the details of facilities available through the satellite; and

(c) by when the satellite phone would be made available to public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) INSAT-3C has C-band, Extended C-band, Mobile Satellite Service (MSS) & Broadcast Satellite Service & S-band transponders. These transponders cater to telephony, data & video services.

(c) One transponder in MSS (Mobile Satellite Service) has been provided in INSAT 3-C Testing with the ground segment is going on.